



"The workhorse of the Air Force"

Buckeye Flyer

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J-FIREd up

by Maj. Richard C. Sater
445th AW/ Public Affairs

They're fighting fire with J-FIRE. The Air Force recently approved new firefighting gear designed to increase firefighting capability: a suit called the Joint Fire Integrated Response Ensemble. The J-FIRE allows firefighters to manage fires in areas that are potentially chemically contaminated, including indoor blazes.

The 445th Fire Protection Unit is now outfitted and ready to train the J-FIRE way.

The new suit looks almost identical to the standard battle dress uniform in form, fit, and appearance. The big difference is that the J-FIRE is actually a chemical-warfare protection ensemble, with treated charcoal filters and all the special features of the chem suit — except the bulk.

"It's thinner, and a lot lighter," says Tech. Sgt. Eric Baldrige, 445th FPU. "That's an advantage."

In the past, military firefighters wore the standard BDUs. To work in a potentially-contaminated environment, they would have to don the traditional chemical-warfare ensemble first and then the fireproof "silver suit" over that — wasting valuable minutes. The bulky chem suit also restricted movement.

The J-FIRE was designed to address those concerns.

"We'll put on the J-FIRE in the morning instead of a regular uniform," says Airman 1st Class Shannon Biddle, also with the 445th FPU. "It is a uniform."



photo by Maj. Richard Sater

Tech. Sgt. Eric Baldrige assists Airman 1st Class Shannon Biddle in donning his firefighting gear over the new J-FIRE uniform. Both are members of the 445th Fire Protection Unit.

"We just put our fire gear on over it," Baldrige explains. It saves time — and that could mean saving lives or property.

In addition to the redesigned uniform, the regular firefighter's protective mask has also been re-engineered to serve as a chemical-defense mask. A firefighter can breathe through the standard canister filter (similar to those that attach to regular gas

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Photo by Mr. Mike Libecap

Maj. Gen. James P. Czekanski, 4th Air Force commander (left) and Hanferd J. "Hank" Moen Sr. (far right) pose for a picture after pinning on Brig. Gen. Moen's star at the promotion ceremony Jan. 15.

A Star is born

by Mary Allen
445th AW/ Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. Hanferd J. "Rusty" Moen Jr., 445th Airlift Wing commander, received his general's star Jan. 15 during a promotion ceremony in the wing headquarters building.

The small ceremony consisted of the presiding officer, Maj. Gen. James P. Czekanski, 4th Air Force commander, family, friends, and distinguished guests.

Gen. Moen's proud father, Hanferd J. "Hank" Moen Sr., of West Union, Iowa, attended the ceremony and pinned on his son's star. Hank Moen is a retired pilot with the military and civilian airlines with more than 30,000 flying hours.

It was an emotional day for Gen. Moen who followed in his father's foot steps. "My father taught me everything I know from hunting and fishing, to flying and he is my best friend," said Gen. Moen.

New Hearts

by Capt. Chaplain Andre Saunders
445th AW/ Protestant Chaplain

Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, an African-American medical physician is credited with having performed the first "open-heart" surgery July 9, 1893, long before this kind of surgery was developed. Dr. Williams saved the life of a knifing victim who suffered from symptoms of internal bleeding. In a room too small for the surgical team, Dr. Williams opened the patient's chest, which exposed the heart. Dr. Williams sutured a pierced blood vessel and a tear to the pericardium tissue around the heart, to stop the bleeding, without the aid of X-rays, blood trans-fusions, or modern miracle drugs. On August 2, Dr. Williams operated again to remove some fluid from the chest cavity. On August 30, James Cornish walked out of the hospital, and was known to be alive twenty-years later.

Because of Adam's fall, humanity suffers from spiritual internal bleeding, (Jer. 17:9). Thank God that through the Son, the heart of reason, victimized by the dagger of sin, can be sutured. On the basis of amazing grace, Christ our divine heart Specialist offers the scalpel of Holy Writ to take away our stony hearts and in the melody of the Psalmist: "create within me a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within me." (Ps. 51: 10). As celebrants of Black History Month and Valentine's Day, remember that Jesus is that heart Surgeon and Thread of grace that restores wounded hearts. Indeed, He is able to stop the bleeding.

Air and Space Core Competencies

by Brig. Gen. Rusty Moen
445th AW/ Commander

Air Force Secretary Dr. James Roche, in his inaugural "Secretary's Vector" communication with the field, discussed the fundamental way in which we describe ourselves, and how we conceptualize our contributions to the nation's security mission in this current era. Some excerpts from The Secretary's Vector:

"that is, our Air and Space Core Competencies. General Jumper and I have discussed these competencies extensively among ourselves and with our colleagues, and we believe they capture the essence of who we are, just as the effort to refine them underscores the spirit of constructive change that motivates us all.

Air and Space Core Competencies

The Air Force has made tremendous strides in realizing the vision of early airmen and exploiting the potential of each medium in which we operate. Yet, we recognize there is an array of capabilities as yet undiscovered, and a need to test and evolve basic tenets against new realities and conditions. Just as our operational concepts and systems continually advance, so must the way in which we articulate our Air Force competencies.

The history of the Air Force reveals fundamental competencies that are at the core of our ability to develop and deliver air and space power. These unique institutional qualities set the Air Force apart from the other services and every other military force in the world. By identifying and keeping these competencies foremost in our vision, we



can more effectively advance these unique capabilities, as well as the ultimate effects we provide to the nation. The Air Force continually nurtures these areas of expertise, making us the preeminent air and space force in the world. Previously, we distilled these into six distinctive capabilities which we referred to as our "core competencies" – Air and Space Superiority, Global Attack, Rapid Global Mobility, Precision Engagement, Information Superiority, and Agile Combat Support. Upon reflection and discussion, we learned that certain elements are more fundamental to who we are as an Air Force, how leaders, commanders, and colleagues view us, and how we develop our capabilities for joint warfighting. These are our institutional air and space core competencies — those that in fact make the six distinctive capabilities possible: Developing Airmen, Technology-to-Warfighting, and Integrating Operations. Our air and space core competencies form the foundation upon which we organize, train, and equip, and are the cornerstone of our strength as a military service. "

Expect to hear more about **Developing Airmen**: the heart of combat capability, **Technology-to-Warfighting**: the tools of combat capability, and **Integrating Operations**: maximizing combat capabilities, in the months ahead.

My Promotion last week allowed me to reflect on how lucky I have been to work in our great Air Force. It is the people, not the equipment, that make us great. My thanks to each of you for your service to our wing and to our nation. I know each of you is prepared for whatever demands may come our way.

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An assignment turns into a reality check

by Maj. Theodore Theopolos
445th AW/ Public Affairs

"If not me, who; if not now, when?" Command Chief Master Sgt. Rick (last names are not being released per Air Force Reserve Command guidance) spoke those words at the wing's November commander's call. The chief was referencing an upcoming Air Expeditionary Force tour, for which he had volunteered. He encouraged the audience of reservists to volunteer if they can to help with AEF assignments.

Taking his own advice, the chief left Dec 13 year for a three-month AEF tour at a Middle East location.

In a recent e-mail received by the acting Command Chief, Chief Master Sgt. Dennis Ballinger, Rick stated, "I'm having the experience of my life."

Rick was referring to how lucky he has it in America compared to the local residents there. "This gives you a new outlook on life," he expressed.

The chief mentioned his visit to the compound hospital with the military flight surgeon. The hospital had two American military patients and ten local patients. "It was really an emotional experience for me to get through the rounds," said Rick.

"The locals include a four day old baby suffering from malnutrition, a 12 year old girl with a ruptured bowel, salmonella poisoning, and meningitis," said the chief. "She's nothing but a skeleton, and I don't see any hope for her life. The last patient is



Chief Master Sgt. Rick takes a moment out to visit with the young boy at the compound's hospital. The boy lost his eye in a mine explosion.

a two-year old boy who lost his right eye in a mine explosion. He was a little ham giving high fives and smiling and waving to everybody. The rest of the local patients were also victims of land mines and were missing limbs or were badly injured."

"I imagined the children as my own, and needless to say it was very disturbing," expressed an emotional chief.

The visit to the hospital was a reality check for Rick. "We don't think much about these things when we see it on TV or read about it in the paper, but when you are standing there seeing it in person, it's like being hit by a sledge hammer," said the chief. "This is real, and it's happening everyday."

After visiting the hospital, the chief wants to do more for the local children. He currently is working with the base on a nation-building program called "Adopt a Village," which is geared toward collecting school supplies. "It's to show that we (the Americans) are genuinely concerned about getting them on the road to a better life," said Rick.



During Chief Rick's visit to the compound hospital with the military flight surgeon, he took time to pose for a photo with several local children.

(Courtesy photos)

Supplies needed

"The children are in need of any school supplies that we can provide," the chief stated. "They need things like paper, writing tablets, pencils, crayons, non-toxic glue sticks, rulers, school scissors and basically anything used in the classroom."

Chief Ballinger has put the word out to the wing's Top Three to help with this project. The drop off points for

supplies and or donations is Lt. Col. Mary Henderhan's office located in the 445th MSS building (4012) or the PA office located in the headquarters building (4010). Supplies cannot be government issue or supplied items.

"Anything we can do to help these children would be greatly appreciated," said the Chief.

J-FIREd up

Continued from front page

masks) or through the compressed-air tank.

The entire 445th FPU — approximately two dozen firefighters — have been outfitted with the new suit, which has been in development for several years, according to Chief Master Sgt. Patrick Hogenbirk, 445th FPU fire chief.



photo by Maj. Richard Sater

Airman 1st Class Shannon Biddle sinches his mask straps as he dons the J-FIRE mask.

Prior to the employment of the J-FIRE, “we were not allowed to do any interior firefighting under Condition Black [a suspected chemical attack in progress],” Hogenbirk says. “The J-FIRE gives us that increased capability.”

There are still some concerns about heat exhaustion because the suit is much heavier than a standard BDU, Hogenbirk says, but careful attention to safety procedures and work/rest cycles will help to ensure optimum use of the J-FIRE. “I just want to make sure the guys are safe,” he says.

On Feb. 22, 14 of the unit firefighters will head to Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., for a week-long exercise, Silver Flag, that will allow them to train in the J-FIRE suit for the first time, Hogenbirk says.

The entire 445th Civil Engineer Squadron — the 445th FPU’s parent unit — will participate in Silver Flag. The training, required every two years, includes classroom sessions and a field exercise of wartime scenarios that integrate firefighters with medics, security force specialists, and other civil engineers.

Refurbishing the tools of the trade

*by Senior Airman Robert Sperling
445th AW/ Public Affairs*

In early October, 2002 two small vehicles were rolled out of their trailers and delivered to the aircraft maintenance professionals of the 445th Maintenance Squadron.

Since that time the vehicles have undergone extensive repair and restoration. The vehicles are the Thunderbird F-16 and NASCAR racecar go-carts of Indiana’s active-duty Air Force recruiters.

Senior Master Sgt. Jack Yeager leads the maintenance team working on the vehicles. Working with Sgt. Yeager is: Tech. Sgt. Mark Mannig, Staff Sgts. Rob Caskey and Luke Schroeder, and Senior Airman Frank Saul.

“All of the work that we have done has been completed in the small amounts of ‘free time’ we have,” said Staff Sgt. Luke Schroeder, 445th Maintenance Squadron. The vehicle repairs have been mostly fiberglass and paint work to the many various body parts.

This is the second time the 445th has

worked on the recruiter’s vehicles. The recruiters approached the maintenance team with a request to help them protect their expensive recruiting tools, to do this they gave the team free rein to do what they could. The maintenance troops took the opportunity to show just how good they really are.

Some of the improvements planned for the racecar include a new, stronger front bumper, improving ventilation by making the windows removable. The team has plans for the trailers too, they are changing the way that the vehicles are secured so that they won’t move around inside their respective trailers, said Master Sgt. John Birhanzl, 445th Maintenance Squadron Structural Repair technician. “We are currently about 90 percent complete on the F-16 and about 50 percent on the racecar.”

The maintenance team working on the vehicles is working towards having the work completed before spring, so that the recruiters can show off their newly refurbished and improved tools.



(Left) Staff Sgt. Luke Schroeder, 445th MXS wipes off the F-16's wings prior to performing some more work.



(Others) The vehicles sit, waiting for the team's "free time."



Photos by Senior Airman Robert Sperling



These CATs will save your life

by Senior Airman Robert Sperling
445th AW/ Public Affairs

For those critically injured on the battlefield there is no better team to call than the Critical Care Air Transport Team, or better known as CCATTs.

The concept of critical care air transport is several years old and was born out of the dust of Desert Storm by, now retired, Lt. Gen. P.K. Carlton III, former Air Force Surgeon General. During the Gulf War the fluid and fast moving battlefield proved to be a hindrance to the dated critical care medical facilities that the U.S. military had adopted during Vietnam.

During Desert Storm the military's "mobile" field hospital was a collection of equipment commonly found in a modern civilian trauma center. The "mobile" hospital required 17 fully loaded C-141 Starlifters to get it to the theater of operation, now 12 years later, that same surgical capability can be carried into the battle zone in backpacks by an elite team of three to five trauma and intensive care professionals.

A CCATT team is typically composed of three highly trained and experienced trauma

The program that was developed is the Center for Sustainment of Trauma and Readiness Skills, or C-STARS for short.

The C-STARS program is a two-week course that places the CCAT teams in a level 1 trauma center; currently C-STARS is located in three such centers, each offering a different Air Force component a training facility. The centers are: Baltimore Maryland Shock Trauma Institute, which offers training to mainly the active duty component's Expeditionary Medical Support teams or E-Meds. Second, there is a facility in St. Louis, which has mainly an Air National Guard focus, and lastly there is the University Hospital of Cincinnati, which mainly focuses on Reserve readiness. Attendance in the course is suggested for every three years, that requirement depends on what the individual team member is exposed to on a day-to-day basis.

The CCAT team members receive their primary CCATT training at Brooks AFB, Texas, from there they are formed into specific teams at their duty location, where they continue to train as a cohesive team. The Air Force is currently about 45 - 50 percent manned in CCAT teams, and most of the teams in the field are "blended" or total force packages composed of active, reserve and guard medical professionals.

The demand for these teams is so great that most of the graduates of the basic course and the C-STARS courses are already deployed to various locations around the globe, said Maj. (Dr.) Bradley Davis, Medical Director, C-STARS, Cincinnati.

The Cincinnati C-STAR program is a conglomeration between the Air Force Medical Service, University Hospital of Cincinnati, the 74th Medical Group (Wright-Patterson AFB) and the 445th Airlift Wing.

"Our unit, the 445th ASTS, is intimately involved nationally with the CCATT program, and we want to be a part of the evolution of this sustainment program," said Col. (Dr.) Bill Hurd, commander 445th ASTS.

"The close cooperation of the University Hospital trauma center and Wright-Patterson's 74th Medical Group and 445th



Members of the one and a half CCATT teams in attendance meet with Maj. Kimberly Heller, 445th ASTS, and Maj. Cherie Roberts, IMA to the Surgeon General's Tactical Advisory Team to discuss the different option they have in the configuration and loading of the C-141.

Airlift Wing enable this particular location, to be one of the best," said Lt. Col. (Dr.) Jay Johannigman, Individual Mobilization Assistant to the Surgeon General's Tactical Advisory Team. "Wright-Patterson is one of the few locations that contains all the parts of the CCATT program, add the level 1 trauma center at University Hospital and to the active and reserve CCATT teams at Wright-Patterson and the aircraft, aeromedical evacuation, and aeromedical staging squadrons through the 445th, and this location makes for a perfect training environment."

"The acceptance that the military gets at University Hospital is second to none, they (University Hospital) are constantly asking me when the next round of CCATT personnel are coming," said Maj. Cherie Roberts, Individual Mobilization Assistant to the Surgeon General's Tactical Advisory Team.

In a discussion regarding real world employment of CCAT teams, Lt. Col. (Dr.) Daniel Houssiere, 944th Fighter Wing, Luke AFB, Ariz. said, "on a recent training deployment to Lakenheath Air Base, England, we were working alongside our active duty counterparts and we all worked so well together that after time it was very difficult to see any difference between the reservists and active duty doctors."

"I must tip my hat to the support staff, including the wing, group, and squadron commanders of the 445th for their endless support of this program," said Roberts. "The flying piece of the CCATT equation is integral, and without it we could not be as productive and proficient as we are."



Capt. Roberta Heldenbrand, 932 MDS, Scott AFB, Ill., gently moves her patient through the snow to the awaiting ambulance.

photos by Senior Airman Robert Sperling

and intensive care professionals and can be augmented, these teams are assigned to active duty, reserve and guard component aeromedical staging squadrons deployed throughout the world. The skill sets found in these teams include physicians specializing in trauma and intensive care, trauma nurses, and respiratory therapists. In order for the teams to retain their qualification, a program was developed to provide them with the opportunity to sustain their trauma skills in a real world, civilian trauma center.



87th Aerial Port deploys to the Middle East

by Staff Sgt. Charlie Miller
445th AW/ Public Affairs

A team of six air transportation specialists from the 87th Aerial Port Squadron will be deployed to the Middle East for the next 90 days as part of an Aerospace Expeditionary Force tour.

The members will work alongside active duty forces already in place supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

"Look at the importance of this mission," said Master Sergeant Steve, one of the team members. "When the call comes for a mission like this, you really have to answer. We're well trained and like to demonstrate that fact."

"Put us in any situation and we blend in with the

active duty so we are all perfectly integrated," said Tech. Sgt. Danny, another team member. "We try and excel at everything we do here at the 87th."

"There's a wide variety of cargo needed to support the operations over there," Steve said. "We can handle any type of cargo, munitions, human remains, whole blood, and commissary items, and process passengers if they need us to."

The Aerial Porters will be performing a wide variety of jobs while in country and work with a variety of aircraft.

"We can work with any type of cargo aircraft including: C-141, C-5, C-17, C-130, DC-8," said Steve. "Plus we cover the gamut as far as air terminal operations, cargo processing, and special handling procedures. We train all the time to do these jobs. Sometimes before you deploy there's a question as to how well you'll do the job while on active duty because you train in a controlled environment. In my experience with the 87th, you get into the work and it's 'Hey, I can do this. No problem.'"

"I believe we are the best of the best," said Danny, who is a material handling



photos by Staff Sgt. Charlie Miller

Master Sgt. Steve and Tech. Sgt. Danny review the pallet content sheet as they prepare the pallet for loading aboard an aircraft.

equipment instructor with the 87th. "There's no other unit I want to be in."

Their claims can easily be backed up. The 87th Aerial Port Squadron was awarded the Air Force Outstanding

Unit Award in 1996 and has twice won the 21st Air Force, Air Reserve Component Aerial Port Unit of the Year award.

"And that's a feather in our cap," Danny added.

Master Sgt. Steve and Tech. Sgt. Danny inspect and tighten the straps on a pallet before it is loaded on the aircraft.



Photos by Senior Airman Robert Sperling

Winter's back

(All photos) Tech. Sgt. John Gilliam, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, de-ices aircraft #177 prior to it going out on a local training mission.



Welcome and Congratulations!

Promotions

Congratulations to the following personnel, recently promoted to the rank indicated.

Airman

Evelyn Pellot, 445 OSS



Airman First Class

Shelby Emerson, 87 APS

Andrea Lehmkuhl, 445 MXS



Senior Airman

SrA. Daniel Payne, Jr., 445 MSS

Nathan Driver, 445 CES



Staff Sergeant

Brian Gray, 445 AMXS

James Kantorzyk, 89 AS

Britney Lawson, 445 AMDS

Luke Schroeder, 445 MXS

Avery Turner, 445 AW

Randy Watson, 445 CF

Dawn Williams, 445 SVF



Technical Sergeant

Glerrick Dale, 445 MXS

Roberto Garcia, Jr., 356 AS

Mary Hayes, 445 MXS

Robin Hinkle, 445 LRS

Shawn Kane, 445 ASTS

Aaron Long, 445 MXS



William Mathie, Jr., 445 AES

Master Sergeant

Steven Beyer, 445 LRS

David Johnson, 445 AMXS

Randall Lynch, 89 AS

Scott Phillips, 445 SFS

Lisa Rodriguez, 445 CES

Lisa Stewart, 445 AMXS



Senior Master Sergeant

Dennis Williams, 445 CES

Denis Higgins, 445 CES

Steven Parker, 89 AS



Chief Master Sergeant

Sandy Harold, 445 AMXS



First Lieutenant

Douglas Hayes, 89 AS



Reenlistments

Congratulations to the following 445th AW members who recently re-enlisted in the Reserve.

SrA William Burns, 87 APS

SSgt. Daniel Bentancur, 445 SFS

SSgt. Jeffery Spires, 445 SFS

TSgt. Cornell Billingsley, 445 MOF

TSgt. Gregory Crisp, 445 LRS

TSgt. David Hayes, 445 CLSS

TSgt. Tyrone Walk, 445 AMS
MSgt. Michael Bailey, 87 APS
MSgt. Chris Hale, 445 MXS
MSgt. Steven Parker, 89 AS
MSgt. Paul Prater, 356 AS
MSgt. Dale Sanders, 445 AMS
MSgt. Roland Stinnette, 445 AMS
MSgt. Kenneth Yarbaer, 445 CLSS
SMSgt. Douglas Rihm, 445 FTU
SMSgt. Ricky Smith, 89 AS
SMSgt. Dennis Williams, 445 CES

Newcomers

Welcome to the following reservists, recently assigned to the 445th AW:

Amn Rasheekah Abubakr, 445 MSS

Amn Kerry Hahn, 445 MSS

A1C Philip Nunmaker, 445 CES

A1C Marcus Payne, 445 CES

A1C Charlotte Williams, 445 MSS

A1C Marcus Prigg, 445 MSS

A1C Paula Sielschott, 445 MSS

A1C Casey Collard, 445 ASTS

A1C Brandy Miller, 445 AES

A1C Toby Ellis, 87 APS

A1C Christopher Falloon, 445 AMS

A1C Jason Frazier, 445 AMS

SrA Sean Bailey, 445 AMDS

SrA Thomas McRoy Jr., 445 CES

SrA Aaron Barlage, 445 CES
SrA Kenneth Mills, 445 CES
SrA Nicholas Miller, 445 CF
SrA Shane Anderson, 445 CF
SrA Chandra Hester, 445 CF
SrA Steven Stapp, 445 CF
SrA Carol Proctor, 445 MSS
SrA Adanna Roberts, 445 ASTS
SrA Roxanne Bennington, 89 AS
SrA Chad Kopf, 445 AMS
SrA Marion King, 445 SVF
SrA Angela Stein, 445 MXS
SSgt. Ryan Kalasz, 445 AES
SSgt. Scott Bomgardner, 445 CES
SSgt. Roger Lowe, 445 CES
SSgt. Scarlet Cheek, 445 MSS
SSgt. Brian Berry, 445 ASTS
SSgt. Aida Solis, 445 ASTS
SSgt. Brian Cole, 445 AMDS
SSgt. Jeffrey Assini, 445 ASTS
SSgt. Traci Williams, 445 AMDS
SSgt. Christopher Williams, 445 CLSS
SSgt. Gary Lutz, 445 SFS
TSgt. Rick Grau, 445 CES
TSgt. Russell Leganik, 445 AMS
TSgt. Junar Mabunay, 445 LRS
MSgt. Jeffrey Lapine, 445 CLSS
MSgt. Lucia Greer, 89 AS
2nd Lt Teena Hayes, 445 OSS

Spring brings required split disbursement

AFRC News Service

All Air Force government travel card holders can expect to be filing split disbursements on their travel vouchers starting in the spring of 2003.

The Air Force is making the current optional process mandatory to combat delinquent government travel card payments to Bank of America, which holds the government travel card contract.

"It will especially help people who tend to procrastinate," said Wanda Griggers-Evans, government travel card service coordinator for Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command. "They don't need to write a check or even put a stamp on an envelope. They know the bill is paid."

Griggers-Evans expects split disbursements to become mandatory during the April to June timeframe.

She said using the process is a simple, easy way to manage government travel cards. Account holders select the option when filing their travel voucher and enter how much they want Bank of America to receive toward their bill. The payment is sent directly from their finance office to Bank of America.

Air Force officials said split disbursements reduce operating costs and make it easier to avoid late fees and delinquencies.

First AFRC commander retires

AFRC News Service

The first assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for reserve affairs retired from military service during a Pentagon ceremony Dec. 16.

Maj. Gen. Robert A. McIntosh became the chief and commander of the Air Force Reserve Command in Nov. 1994. He held the dual-hat position until June 1998 when he accepted the joint service position established by the 1998 National Defense Authorization Act.

During his last assignment in the Pentagon, he was the principal adviser and acted as the chairmans JCS' personal liaison regarding reserve affairs.

The general entered the Air Force in 1966 as a graduate of the Ohio University ROTC program and in May of that year began undergraduate pilot training at Webb AFB, Texas. After separating from active duty in Aug. 1971, he joined the Reserve as an A-37 instructor pilot with the 910th Tactical Fighter Group at Youngstown Municipal Airport, Ohio. Eighteen years later, he assumed command of the Reserve's 10th Air Force at Bergstrom AFB, Texas.

McIntosh served as the Reserve's vice commander at Robins AFB, Ga., and commander of 22nd Air Force at Dobbins ARB, Ga., before overseeing the Air Force Reserve. He became AFRC's first commander at its inception Feb. 17, 1997.



Wing Notes

Gate hours

Effective Jan. 3rd, the new gate hours will take effect. Gate 26C will be open on Saturday and Sunday of both UTAs during the following hours:

0600-0730

1030-1330

1530-1700

If a group or squadron needs the gate open other than posted above, contact the 445th SFS at 257-0062.

445th Wing Night with the Bombers



It's the 445th Airlift Wing night at the Dayton Bombers Sunday, February 1, 2003, at the Nutter Center. Game begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are only \$6.50 (regular price is \$10.50) and are available at the 445th Airlift Wing Recruiting or Public Affairs office.

Oh, the weather outside is frightful...

It's hard to believe the winter wonderland season will be upon us. Winter brings the threat of hazardous weather conditions. Tune into the local radio and television stations for delays or base closures. Remember base-essential personnel are required to report to duty regardless of base delays, closure and adverse weather. Base essential-personnel are individuals engaged in base operating support functions which must be performed to continue day-to-day operations of the base; hospital, firefighters, security, flightline, civil engineering functions, etc.

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Need for blood donations grows

Courtesy of AETC Public Affairs

With a smaller pool of eligible military donors and a recently decreased stock of frozen blood, the Air Force assistant vice chief of staff is calling on servicemembers and their families to donate blood.

In a recent memo to the field, Lt. Gen. Joseph Wehrle asked airmen worldwide to support the January observance of National Volunteer Blood Donor Month by rolling up their sleeves and giving the gift of life.

"Blood safety and availability are inseparable requirements for ensuring optimal care of our active-duty troops, retirees, military spouses and children," he said. "Unfortunately, current federal regulations barring donations from (people) who have served time in Europe have resulted in a 25-percent drop in eligible donors on Air Force bases."

Besides fewer donors, the frozen blood supply took a hit recently when the Armed Services Blood Program Office asked the military to withdraw frozen blood supplies donated during last summer's West Nile virus epidemic to avoid transmitting the potentially fatal disease to recipients.

Those factors, combined with a historical trend of fewer blood donations in the winter months, would make the need for blood more urgent in any year. That need is even more urgent today, taking into consideration current world events including a possible war with Iraq.

"At this time, with American forces actively fighting the war on terrorism and

with hundreds of thousands of military (people) deployed in support of expeditionary operations throughout the world, I want to personally encourage everyone who can give blood, to do so," Wehrle said.

Leaders of the nation's blood banking community are seeking a nationwide donation of 1.2 million units of blood during January. Military and civilian blood collection officials said donors with Type AB blood are especially needed, because AB is the universal blood plasma type.

"To avert critical blood shortages this winter, we need citizens across the country to schedule an appointment to donate blood," said Jim MacPherson, chief executive officer of America's Blood Centers. "Blood has a shelf life of only 42 days, which

means it constantly needs to be replenished. Donors can give blood every 56 days, or six times a year."

Fewer than 5 percent of healthy Americans eligible to donate blood actually donate each year, according to information from the American Association of Blood Banks. To be eligible to donate blood, a person must be in good health and usually must be at least 17 years old. Minimum weight requirements may vary among facilities, but generally, donors must weigh at least 110 pounds. Most blood banks have no upper age limit. All donors must pass the physical and health history examinations given before donation.

"This selfless act helps us take care of our own, the hallmark of our military tradition," Wehrle said.

